

February 26, 2013 Vision 20/20 Minutes, 7:30 a.m., NR Civic Center

The meeting was called to order by Paul Mayer

Last week there had been discussion about the activity of Women's Lib in the 1970s and how attitudes have changed. Certain goals were met, others never have been, but young women of today seem less passionate about the movement than they were in the 1970s. Bill R. has found an article on the Internet which was part of a current New York Times debate on the subject of feminism and the impact on our culture. Bill had found the comment section particularly interesting. What should feminism focus on next/should the superwoman mystique be confronted, etc. The website is <http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/>

John W. and others who were at the St. Croix County land auction on Saturday, February 23 at Gibby's Lanes reported on the event. "It was a willing buyer, willing seller situation." The County raised \$3.5 million on the sale, money said to be going to be used to upgrade the 9/11 emergency system and move the Health & Human Services Dept. to Hudson.

The 550 acres were divided into seven parcels and all parcels auctioned off in a somewhat unusual way. After the original bidding, rounds were repeated seven more times, finally ending when no parcel had received a raise in bid. 450 acres of agricultural land were sold to one bidder at \$7000 an acre. Other parcels within New Richmond city limits went for \$7,600 an acre and a small parcel of 43 acres went for \$5,000 an acre.

All of the land is within New Richmond's extra-territorial rights zone of one-and-one-half miles surrounding the city, that is the city can have input into the activity proposed in such areas.

"It was like watching a chess game. People had no idea what the land was worth. There were no hidden minimums. The highest bidder got it and the rules were pretty strict. Right afterward winning bidders had to put up 10% of the cost. There was a date set for closing and if the buyer could not meet the terms at that time, he would lose the 10% already invested."

Buyers of land along what is being called "the strip" bordering north of New Richmond city limits would have to invest in street access, utilities, etc. This is land suitable for commercial development.

Mary was directed to put in the minutes a leak that Mary and Irv's 60th wedding anniversary will be celebrated (quietly) on Thursday, February 28.

Meeting adjourned with civil discourse observed.

Mary Sather, Recorder.